

Car Wash Fundraisers



Information Packet



City of Fremont
Environmental Services Division
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Report Illegal Dumping: 510-494-4580

Introduction

Car wash fundraising events are a great way for non-profit agencies and school clubs to raise funds for their programs. Did you know that car washing could impact the environment? Washing a vehicle on the street or driveway adds pollutants to our local creeks and to the San Francisco Bay. The washwater, which may contain oil, grease, detergents, heavy metals, and exhaust runs down the driveway and street gutter to the nearest storm drain inlet. The storm drain system discharges through pipes, channels, and creeks ultimately draining to the San Francisco Bay. The washwater is not treated to remove the pollutants.

There are methods to reduce or even eliminate this source of water pollution. This Car Wash Fundraiser guide provides information on water pollution reduction.

Procedural Guidelines

Car Wash Fundraisers

1. Before the Car Wash

- **Obtain a Car Wash Fundraiser information packet** (i.e. pick up, call in, or download from the Fremont website <http://www.fremont.gov/Environment/StormWaterProgram/CarWashing.htm>, which includes event requirement information.
- **Schedule an appointment at least two weeks in advance to pick up a Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit**, which includes the following items:
 - Six to seven sandbags
 - Two 50' hoses
 - Two 100' extension cords
 - One submersible pump
- **Return completed** "Agreement and Release From Liability" form (pg 5) and "Safe Requirements" (pg 6) to Environmental Services prior to the event.
- **Designate at least one responsible adult (21 years of age or older)** to participate at all times during the course of the event. It is required to have one adult for every four to six participating volunteers under the age of 18.

2. During the Car Wash

- **Follow all "Safety Requirements"** as outlined in this packet.
- **Implement best management practices** (pg 8) to reduce pollutants from entering our local waterways.

3. After the Car Wash

- **Within 3 days following the event**, return the "Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit" to Environmental Services Division.

Installation & Setup Instructions

Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit

1. Pre-Event Setup:

- **Return the signed** “Agreement and Release From Liability” forms and “Safe Requirements” sheets by all participating volunteers.
- **Remove and properly dispose of any trash** in the wash area prior to starting the car wash event.
- **Set up sandbags** to block either the storm drain on site or to block the runoff from the wash area from reaching the storm drain (See Appendix B: Setup Diagrams).
- **Train all participants** regarding safety practices and those participants who are using the kit.
- **Locate and designate wash areas** that:
 - Will allow runoff to flow to one storm drain and no other storm drains as shown in this packet.
 - Will be closest to the event area to connect the power cords.
 - Closest to any landscaping

2. During Event

- **Monitor the setup of the kit** and check for the following:
 - Monitor for water runoff unblocked by the sandbags, which may require sandbags to be adjusted or moved, or the pump may need to be moved to remove or block the flow of water.
 - Unmanaged wash areas – meaning excess water or washing cars in the wrong designated wash area.

3. Post Event Cleanup

- **Before packing up the kit**, make sure the submersible pump has pumped all the water from the area that has been blocked the runoff.
- **Pack up kit** after removing excess water from the hoses, and rolling up the hoses and power cords. They should not be loosely rolled or folded.
- **Return the kit** within 3 days to Environmental Services Division after the event had ended.

AGREEMENT AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

Car Wash Fundraisers - Voluntary Participation

1. I, _____ (Volunteer's Name),
acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Car Wash
Fundraiser to be held by _____ (group/organization name)
at _____ (Location name) property located at _____
_____ (Location address) to be held on _____ (Date) in Fremont,
California;

Assumption of Risk

2. I AM AWARE THAT THIS ACTIVITY CAN BE HAZARDOUS. I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED AND HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH.

Release

3. As consideration for being permitted by the City of Fremont, County of Alameda, or Fremont Unified School District to participate in this activity and use City and County facilities and/or equipment, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributee, guardians, and legal representative will not make a claim against or sue, the City of Fremont, County of Alameda, or Fremont Unified School District or any of their officers or employees for injury or damage arising out of my participation and caused by any condition of public property or the negligence or other acts, of any employee, agent, or contractor of the City of Fremont, County of Alameda, or Fremont Unified School District. I hereby release the City of Fremont, County of Alameda, and Fremont Unified School District and their officers and employees from all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributee, guardians, and legal representative now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my participation.

Knowing and Voluntary Execution

4. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ON THE BACK SIDE OF THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT ALONG WITH SAFETY REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE CITY OF FREMONT, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, OR FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SIGN IT ON MY OWN FREE WILL.

Executed at Fremont, California, on _____ (date).

Participant/Volunteer

**Consent of Parent or Guardian if
under age of 18 years old**

Safety Requirements

Car Wash Fundraisers

1. Pre-Event Setup:

- **Each participant must sign an “Agreement and Release From Liability” form** (front side), which must be signed and dated by all participating volunteers (including adults) and the consent of a parent or guardian if the volunteer is under the age of 18.
- **Each participant must read and understand** this “Safe Requirements” sheet.
- **Return the signed “Agreement and Release From Liability” forms** to Environmental Services Division when you pick up the Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit.
- **Set up Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit safely** and as directed in this packet with the following guidelines:
 - **DO NOT touch** the body of the submersible pump. **It is hot!**
 - **Use proper lifting techniques** when handing the sandbags. **They are heavy!**
 - **DO NOT swing or throw** around the hoses or power cords in the air.
- **Design a traffic flow plan** that will provide an appropriate flow of traffic through the property to minimize impact to traffic on major roads and streets.

2. During the Event

- **It is required that one responsible adult (21 years or older)** be present at all times for every four to six participating volunteers under the age of 18 during the car wash fundraiser event.

3. Post-Event

- **Handle Car Wash Pollution Prevention Kit safely** with the following guidelines:
 - **DO NOT touch** the body of the submersible pump. **It is hot!**
 - **Use proper lifting techniques** when handing the sandbags. **They are heavy!**
 - **DO NOT swing or throw** around the hoses or power cords in the air.

4. Traffic Safety

- **Be aware and cautious at all times** of motor vehicles entering and exiting the parking lot or property holding the car wash fundraiser.

February 2005



Environmental Services Division

In response to recent Federal and State water quality regulations and requirements, municipalities in Alameda County have joined to form the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program (ACCWP).

The ACCWP consists of the Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City, Alameda County, the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and Zone 7 of the District.

The Goal of the ACCWP is to control discharges of pollutants to municipal storm drain systems (and local creeks and the San Francisco Bay). The ACCWP encourages using Best Management Practices to effectively eliminate illegal discharges and connections.

The Storm Drain System was built to collect and transport rain to prevent flooding in urban areas. Anything that flows or is discharged into the storm drain system goes directly into local creeks or San Francisco Bay without any treatment.

The Sanitary Sewer System collects and transports sanitary wastes from interior building plumbing systems to the wastewater treatment plant where the wastewater is treated.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are methods and practices such as good housekeeping, spill prevention, or treatment measures to prevent or minimize pollutant discharges to municipal storm drain systems.

Illegal Discharges or Illicit Connections discharge non-storm water to municipal storm drain systems and contribute to water pollution.

Urban Runoff is rain and any other water that passes through and out of developed areas (streets, parking lots, roof tops, etc.) into the storm drain system and eventually to creeks and other waters.

Fund Raising Carwash

Keeping pollutants out of our storm drain system protects our local creeks, reservoirs, and the San Francisco Bay. Materials swept, blown, or washed into the storm drains end up in these open waters where they degrade water quality and harm aquatic life. In general, wastewater discharged to the storm drains is illegal.

In addition to reviewing their own practices, municipalities participating in the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program (ACCWP) have instituted a business education campaign and inspection program. Inspectors work with contractors and businesses to identify and control potential discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system. *Property and business owners are responsible for their contractors' practices.*

Car washes have long been a favorite fundraiser for scout troops, schools and other non-profit groups. They provide a needed service, can be done with little capital investment, and are very visible. Only in the last few years have we all become more aware of the environmental impact our car washes can have. Dirty water containing soaps, detergents, and residue from exhaust fumes, gasoline, and motor oils are washed off of these cars and flow directly to the nearest storm drain.

All by itself, your car wash may not seem to be contributing that much. But collectively, each of these car washes, done on a regular basis as they are in our communities, contributes some very serious pollution. By following the common sense practices on the back of this sheet you can make a difference in the water quality and health of the San Francisco Bay.

If you need additional information concerning stormwater pollution and its prevention contact the City of Fremont Environmental Services Division at 494-4570 or visit <http://www.fremont.gov/Environment/default.htm>.

Best Management Practices

Follow these BMPs to control pollutant discharges. The objectives are: 1) to keep pollutants out of local waterways and 2) to keep pollutants from being dumped or poured into the storm drains. The goal is "only rain in the storm drain."



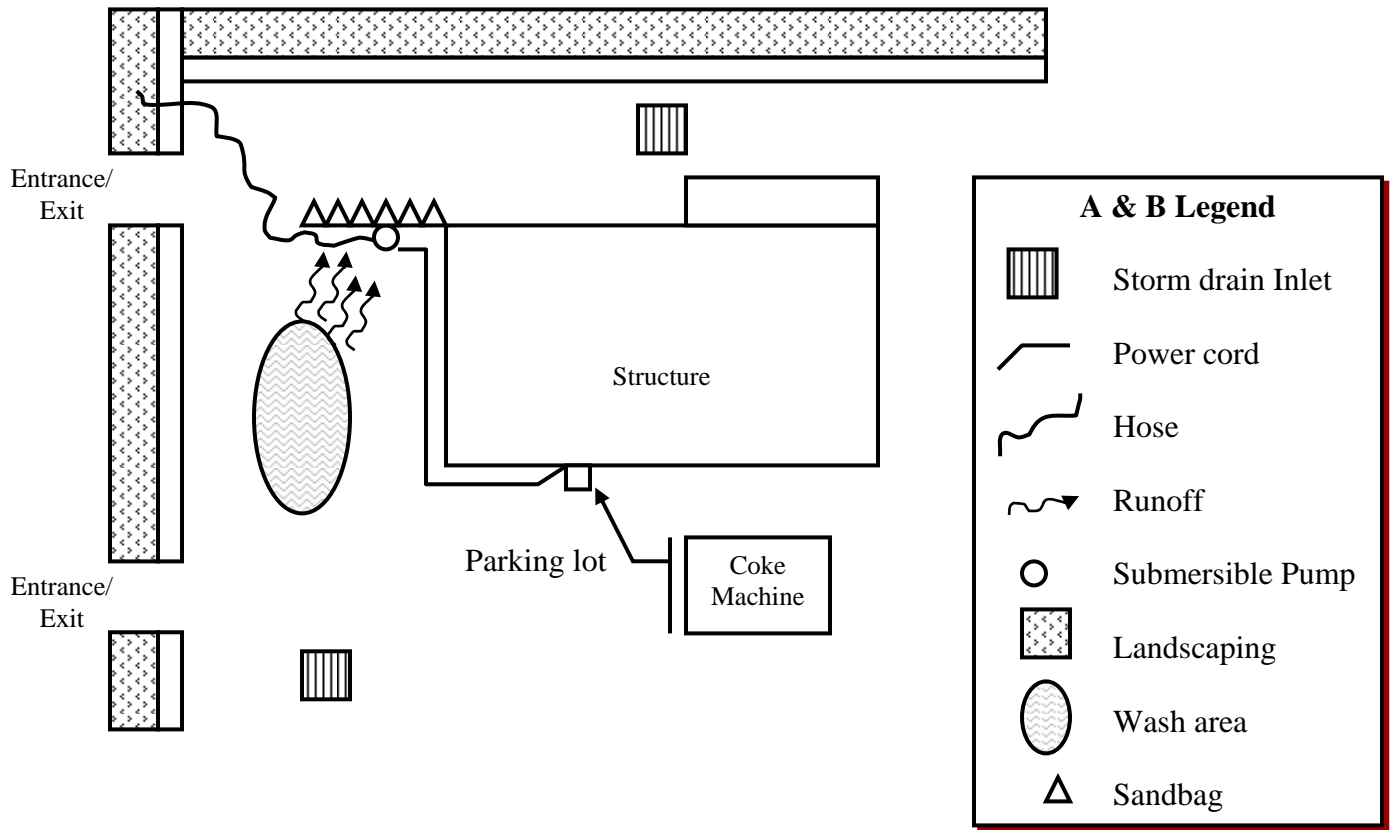
- Find a sponsor for your carwash that uses a closed loop washing system—one that recycles its water. Do not hold your carwash at a facility that is not properly equipped. Popular host sites—such as service stations and parking lots—usually do not have the necessary connections to the sanitary sewer.
- Ask a local commercial carwash to donate a part of the days proceeds or see if they will allow you to market a special wash ticket.
- Hold your carwash at an industrial or commercial site that has a designated equipment/vehicle wash area. This wash pad must be directly connected to the sanitary sewer; the property owner is responsible for all necessary discharge permits.
- Rent a mobile washing system that can contain the water on the site and vacuum up any excess water. Although not inexpensive, collecting and rerouting the water is the only way to protect the storm drain system.
- Be creative with new fundraising ideas. Ask neighbors to donate items for a flea market. Ask your Chamber of Commerce if any local merchants would pay to have flyers distributed. See if you can get sponsors to pledge money for a park or creek clean-up.
- **In Fremont**, kits are available for use at these events, which blocks the storm drain and pumps the washwater to the sanitary sewer. Contact Environmental Services Division at 494-4570 to schedule a time at least two weeks ahead to pick up your kit. If outside of Fremont, please contact your City's local clean water program on how you can set up an area to drain wash water to the sanitary sewer.

Biodegradable does not necessarily mean safe to the environment—these products often degrade faster, but are still toxic to aquatic life.



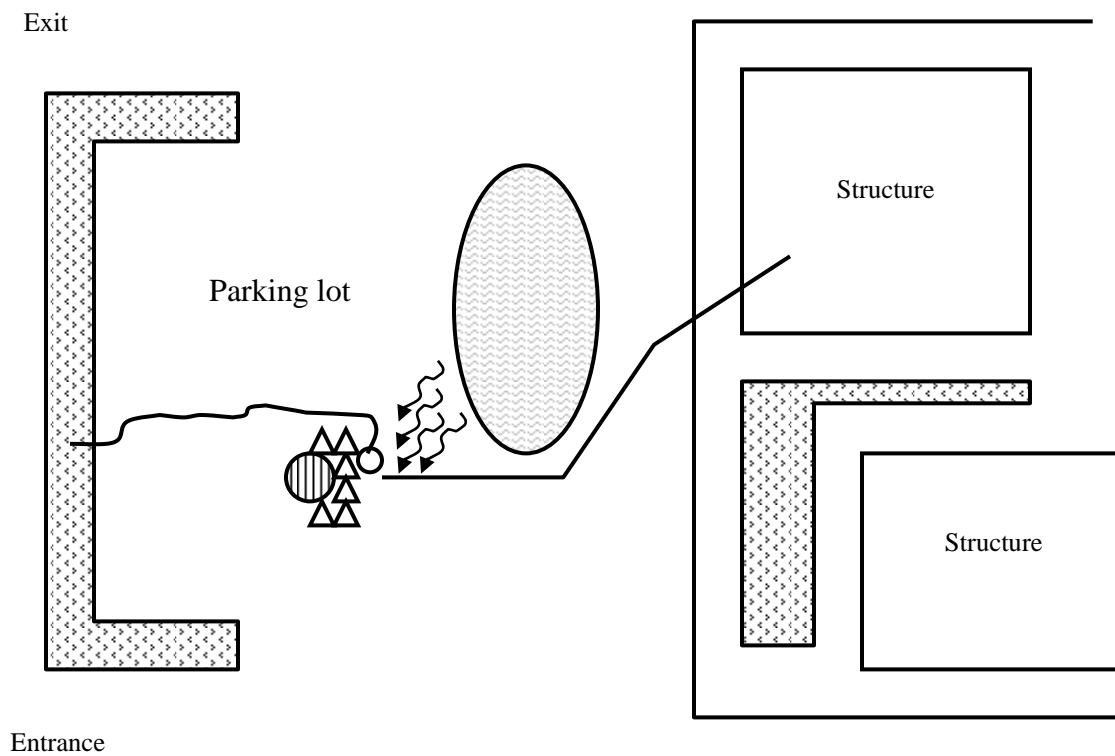
Site Set-up Example A

Smart & Final



Site Set-up Example B

School



Traffic Flow Plan Example

Gas Station

